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**CITY OF FOREST GROVE
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES Approved by Commission on 10/24/19.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nieves called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Sustainability Commission Present:

Amber Nieves
Lilly Meek
Fallon Harris

Johanna Peeters Weem
Robin Lindsley

Absent, Excused: Jacob Rose, Kenneth Cobleigh, Tabitha Merten

Council Liaison: Elena Uhing; Absent, Excused

Staff: Elizabeth Stover, Program Coordinator; Paul Downey, Finance Director

Guests: None.

1. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS: None.

- 2. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS:** Brian Schimmel reached out to Nieves and Harris about creating a public education/business awareness campaign regarding the food waste ordinance, as well as connecting with shelters to divert food to these organizations and out of the waste stream. Harris to work with staff to discuss the food waste ordinance.

October is National Farm to School Month. Nieves recommends a community school garden clean up event on the calendar in October. Tess O'Day is the community garden organizer and will provide the schedule to the Sustainability Commission. Harris to connect with O'Day to create a Facebook post. Nieves suggested writing press releases to recognize local champions in school gardens. Nieves will write the letter of proclamation for the Farm to School Bill.

- 3. CONSENT AGENDA:** Nieves moved to approve the minutes, Peeters Weem second; unanimous.
- 4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** Remove Michelle Larkins Mini-Grant presentation.
- 5. MINI-GRANT REQUEST:** Emily Miller, EJ Miller Fine Art. Eden Acres is the administrator of Emily Miller's grant, if awarded. Miller partnered with Oregon State Parks, Solve, and local fisheries to bring in materials from the Oregon coast; 900lbs is local, 100lbs will come from Hawaii. Harris recused herself from voting. Nieves moved to award \$500; no second. Peters Weem moved to award \$750, Lindsley second; unanimous.

Charlene Murdock can submit a revised grant application, if she desires.

6. **MINI-GRANT REQUEST:** Elena Parker, Run/Walk for Shelter. Only fundraiser for winter shelters in Forest Grove and Cornelius. Parker presented the event materials to the Commission. The previous year, the event raised \$3000, a lower than usual amount. This year, marketing is stronger. Harris moves to award \$1000, Lindsley second; unanimous.
7. **SOLAR ARRAY RESIDENTIAL INCENTIVES FOR COUNCIL:** Nieves reviewed notes from the Commission meetings and found consensus that the solar array on public land does not make fiscal sense and therefore the Commission does not support it. Members also disagree with the study by Bonneville Power Administration that hydropower is the most renewable form of energy. Nieves will write the recommendation for Council to incentivize residents on choosing renewable energy. Harris moves to support writing the letter, Peeters Weem second; unanimous.
8. **SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING:** Scheduled for 10/10/19. Discuss upcoming Litter Clean-Up Event. Commission wishes to create an event that is more interactive, educational, and family-oriented for community members. April 25, 2020 is the targeted date, and the subcommittee brainstormed potential booths of local organizations: Public Arts Commission, Clean Water Services, Eden Acres, Nana Cardoon, Roots and Shots, and the local schools. Next subcommittee meeting will discuss possible names, as well as determine mini-grant needs to support the event.
9. **NCL (WASHINGTON DC) RECOMMENDATION FOR JOHANNA PEETERS WEEM:** Peeters Weem would like to attend the NCL Washington DC trip. She needs to apply to be considered. Harris moves to support, Nieves second; unanimous.
10. **FREE FOOD MARKET:** Removed.
11. **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:** Removed.
12. **STAFF REPORT:** Staff is working with Washington County on the food waste ordinance. Police Facility schematic design is going well, and the City is looking at green roof options and energy incentives.
13. **FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:**
 - Food Waste: Fallon Harris
 - Local Farm & School Collaborations: Lilly Meek and Robin Lindsley
 - Solar Panel Installation Expert: Jonie Blinkman, Auric Solar
 - Subcommittee Meeting Update: Amber Nieves and Fallon Harris
 - Mini-Grant for Litter Clean Up: Amber Nieves
14. **ADJOURNMENT:** Nieves adjourned the meeting at 7:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Stover, Program Coordinator
City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove Sustainability Commission: Date: 10/24/19